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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/341,921	07/21/1999	BERND BESSLING	47699	5757

26474 7590 08/04/2003

KEIL & WEINKAUF
1350 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER

MANOHARAN, VIRGINIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1764

DATE MAILED: 08/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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ART UNIT	PAPER
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15

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Commissioner for Patents

2004-161
- 1724
8/1/03

Art Unit: 1764

The reply filed on May 9, 2003 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

Applicants fail to submit an argument under the heading "Remarks" pointing out disagreements with the examiner's contentions. Applicants must also discuss the references applied against the claims, explaining how the claims avoid the references or distinguish from them.

The claims indicated to be allowable in the previous Office action include the "wherein" clause in claim 1, filed with the Brief on November 8, 2002, Paper No. 12, which was extensively argued by applicants in differentiating the prior art with respect to the present invention. The claims now presented, with the phrase— an acetaldehyde enriched fraction is removed as a sidestream from the column at a side take—off located between the top and bottom of the column— added before the "wherein" clauses of claims 2 and 11 would place the case in condition for allowance. See 37 CFR 1.111.

Applicants are given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to V. Manoharan whose telephone number is (703) 308-

Art Unit: 1764

3844. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday--Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Caldarola can be reached on (703) 308-6824. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9311 for regular communications and (703) 308-0651 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

V. Manoharan/dh
August 1, 2003